

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-18 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13 and 16 are amended, and claims 2 and 8 are cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the pending application in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 9-12 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hanazaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,705,897). The Examiner objected to claims 2 and 8 for being dependent upon rejected base claims, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claims.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 7 to include the subject matter of claims 2 and 8, respectively. In the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that the prior art does not suggest a lighting device having the features recited in claims 2 and 8. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that the inventions recited in Applicants' independent claims 1 and 7 are in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 7, 9-12 and 16-18.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION


Reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and believed to be appropriate. Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present invention in condition for allowance, and believe that they have done so.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Akira YUFUKU et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

James K. Moore, Jr.
Reg. No. 56,272

June 17, 2009
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191